

Environmental Guideline for Ozone Depleting Substances



Department of Environment
Government of Nunavut

GUIDELINE: OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES

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This Guideline has been prepared by the Department of Environment's Environmental Protection Division and approved by the Minister of Environment under the authority of Section 2.2 of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

This Guideline is not an official statement of the law and is provided for guidance only. Its intent is to increase the awareness and understanding of the risks, hazards and best management practices associated with ozone depleting substances. This Guideline does not replace the need for the owner or person in charge, management or control of ozone depleting substances to comply with all applicable legislation and to consult with Nunavut's Department of Environment, other regulatory authorities and qualified persons with expertise in the management of these substances.

Copies of this Guideline are available upon request from:

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Electronic version of the Guideline is available at <http://env.gov.nu.ca/programareas/environmentprotection>

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Introduction

A layer of colourless gas known as “ozone” surrounding the earth helps to filter the sun’s harmful ultraviolet radiation from reaching the planet’s surface. This layer is located in the stratosphere eight to ten kilometres above the earth. Scientific evidence shows that this ozone is being destroyed, and therefore this protective layer is becoming thinner, because of manufactured chlorofluorocarbons, halons and other similar substances being released into the air. These substances are commonly referred to as ‘ozone depleting substances’.

As one of the early signatories to the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*, Canada is committed to protecting the earth’s ozone layer from further deterioration. The Protocol, developed in 1989 under the auspices of the United Nations Environmental Programme, provides a coordinated international response to the global problem of ozone depletion.

Canada’s *National Action Plan for the Environmental Control of Ozone Depleting Substances and their Halocarbon Alternatives* was initially endorsed in 1998 through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) in response to Canada’s commitments under the Montreal Protocol. The Action Plan is a national framework under which federal, provincial and territorial governments commit to implementing an ozone layer protection program focused on chlorofluorocarbons. The Action Plan was updated in 2001 to include all ozone depleting substances.

The original *Environmental Guideline for Ozone Depleting Substances*, which was approved by the Government of the Northwest Territories in 1999 and subsequently adopted by the Government of Nunavut in 2002, represented the Government’s initial response to the National Action Plan. This version of the *Environmental Guideline for Ozone Depleting Substances* (the Guideline) provides updated information on the most common ozone depleting substances and their replacements, the impacts of ozone depletion and best practices respecting the phase-out, recovery, reuse and disposal of these substances. It focuses on the refrigeration, air conditioning and fire protection sectors, although ozone depleting substances have been used by many other sectors in Canada. The Guideline does not address the production, import or export of new or recovered ozone depleting substances as these activities are controlled under regulations administered by Environment Canada. It is not an official statement of the law. For further information and guidance, the owner or person in charge, management or control of an ozone depleting substance is encouraged to review all applicable legislation and consult the Department of Environment, other regulatory agencies or qualified persons with expertise in the management of these substances.

The *Environmental Protection Act* enables the Government of Nunavut to implement measures to preserve, protect and enhance the quality of the natural environment. Section 2.2 of the *Act* provides the Minister with authority to develop, coordinate, and administer the Guideline.

1.1 Definitions

<i>Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment</i>	Equipment used to remove heat from one medium or another using an inert gas (i.e. ozone depleting substance). The Equipment may be stationary (i.e. building air conditioner, commercial or household refrigerator) or mobile (i.e. vehicle air conditioner).
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<i>Certified Service Technician</i>	A person who is qualified to service air conditioning, refrigeration or fire extinguishing equipment through the successful completion of an environmental awareness course for ozone depleting substances approved by Environment Canada.
<i>Commissioner's Land</i>	Lands that have been transferred by Order-in-Council to the Government of Nunavut. This includes roadways and land subject to block land transfers. Most Commissioner's Land is located within municipalities.
<i>Contaminant</i>	Any noise, heat, vibration or substance and includes such other substance as the Minister may prescribe that, where discharged into the environment, (a) endangers the health, safety or welfare of persons, (b) interferes or is likely to interfere with normal enjoyment of life or property, (c) endangers the health of animal life, or (d) causes or is likely to cause damage to plant life or to property.
<i>Dangerous Good</i>	Any product, substance or organism included by its nature or by the <i>Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations</i> in any of the classes listed in the schedule provided in the <i>Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act</i> .
<i>Environment</i>	The components of the Earth and includes (a) air, land and water, (b) all layers of the atmosphere, (c) all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms, and (d) the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in paragraphs (a) to (c) above.
<i>Fire Extinguishing Equipment</i>	A handheld, wheeled or fixed unit or system that is designed to control or extinguish a fire.
<i>Minister</i>	The Minister of Environment of the Government of Nunavut.
<i>Motor Vehicle Air Conditioner</i>	A mechanical vapour compression refrigerant system on a motor vehicle that is designed to provide cooling for the passenger compartment.
<i>Ozone</i>	A colourless gas containing three atoms of oxygen (O ³). In the upper atmosphere, ozone absorbs ultraviolet radiation thereby preventing the radiation from reaching the surface of the earth. In the lower atmosphere (i.e. near the surface of the earth), ozone is one of the detrimental component of urban smog.
<i>Ozone Depleting Substance</i>	A chlorofluorocarbon, hydrochlorofluorocarbon, halon or other substance that is sufficiently stable to reach the stratosphere and has the potential of reacting with and destroying ozone.
<i>Qualified Person</i>	A person who has an appropriate level of knowledge and experience in all relevant aspects of waste management.

<i>Reclamation</i>	The cleaning of recovered ozone depleting substances by filtering, drying, distillation or chemical treatment to meet or exceed industry-accepted reuse standards.
<i>Recovery</i>	The transfer of an ozone depleting substance into a container that is not part of the system from which the substance is transferred.
<i>Recycle</i>	The reuse of recovered ozone depletion substances by transferring the substance back into similar equipment after servicing.
<i>Refillable Container</i>	A container that meets the requirements of Transport Canada and is approved for multiple use.
<i>Responsible Party</i>	The owner, vendor or service technician in charge, management or control of the ozone depleting substance.
<i>Servicing</i>	Repairing, maintaining or adjusting a component of air conditioning, refrigeration or fire extinguishing equipment.
<i>Transport Authority</i>	The statute and regulations controlling the management of hazardous waste under that mode of transport. These include (a) Road and Rail - <i>Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act (Canada) and Regulations; Interprovincial Movement of Hazardous Waste Regulations and Export and Import of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations.</i> (b) Air – <i>International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Technical Instructions;</i> and (c) Marine – <i>International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG).</i>

1.2 Roles and Responsibilities

1.2.1 Department of Environment

The Environmental Protection Division is the key territorial government agency responsible for ensuring parties properly manage ozone depleting substances. Authority is derived from the *Environmental Protection Act*, which prohibits the discharge of contaminants to the environment and enables the Minister to undertake actions to ensure appropriate management measures are in place. Although programs and services are applied primarily to activities taking place on Commissioner's and municipal lands and to Government of Nunavut undertakings, the *Environmental Protection Act* may be applied to the whole of the territory where other controlling legislation, standards and guidelines do not exist. A complete listing of relevant legislation and guidelines can be obtained by contacting the Department of Environment or by visiting the web site at:

<http://env.gov.nu.ca/programareas/environmentprotection>.

1.2.2 Owners, Wholesalers, Retailers and Service Technicians

Owners, wholesalers, retailers and service technicians in charge, management or control of an ozone depleting substance are considered to be the responsible party. The responsible party must ensure the substance is properly and safely managed from the time it is purchased to its final destruction so as to prevent its release to the environment.

Building, equipment and vehicle owners need to be aware of the presence of ozone depleting substances in their air conditioning, refrigeration and fire extinguishing equipment. Equipment that may be leaking or discharging these substances into the air must immediately be taken out of service, the leak stopped and the discharge reported to the Nunavut/NWT 24-Hour Spill Report Line at (867) 920-8130 (refer to table 3 on page 11 of the Guideline). Owners may also be affected by the phase-out of ozone depleting substances in Canada and should develop a plan for replacing the ozone depleting substance with an acceptable alternative.

Wholesalers and retailers of ozone depleting substances, other than where the substance is an integral part of the equipment, should sell replacement substances only to companies that employ certified service technicians.

A service technician may become certified by successfully completing an environmental awareness course for ozone depleting substances that is approved by Environment Canada. Only certified service technicians should maintain and repair air conditioning, refrigeration and fire extinguishing equipment that contain ozone depleting substances. Technicians should immediately advise the owner when they become aware of leaking equipment and the equipment must not be refilled or put back into service until the necessary repairs are completed.

Contractors may manage ozone depleting substances on behalf of the responsible party. However, the responsible party remains liable for ensuring the method of management complies with all applicable statutes, regulations, standards, guidelines and local by-laws. If the contractor does not comply with the requirements of the *Environmental Protection Act* and is charged with a violation while managing the ozone depleting substance, the responsible party may also be charged.

1.2.3 Other Regulatory Agencies

Other regulatory agencies may have to be consulted regarding the management of ozone depleting substances as there may be other environmental or public and worker health and safety issues to consider.

Environment Canada

Environment Canada is responsible for controlling the import, manufacture, use in some cases, sale and export of ozone depleting substances through the federal *Ozone-depleting Substances Regulations* and *Federal Halocarbon Regulations* which have been adopted under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*. Environment Canada is also responsible for regulating the international and interprovincial movement of hazardous waste under the *Interprovincial Movement of Hazardous Waste Regulations* and *Export and Import of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations*.

Department of Community and Government Services

The Office of the Fire Marshal in the Department of Community and Government Services is responsible under the *Fire Prevention Act*, National Fire Code and National Building Code for ensuring adequate fire prevention and response measures are in place. The Department, in cooperation with communities, is also responsible for the planning and funding of municipal solid waste and sewage disposal facilities in most Nunavut communities.

Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

The Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission is responsible for promoting and regulating worker and workplace health and safety in Nunavut. The Commission derives its authority from the *Workers' Compensation Act* and *Safety Act* which require an employer to maintain a safe workplace and ensure the safety and well being of workers.

Department of Health and Social Services

Activities related to the management of ozone depleting substances may have an impact on public health. The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Regional Environmental Health Officers should be consulted regarding legislated requirements under the *Public Health Act*.

Department of Economic Development and Transportation

The Motor Vehicles Division is responsible for ensuring the safe transport of hazardous waste and other dangerous goods by road through administration of the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act*. The Department is also responsible under the *Motor Vehicles Act* for driver licensing and various other vehicle and road safety matters.

Local Municipal Governments

The role of municipal governments is important in the proper local management of unwanted ozone depleting substances and equipment and vehicles that contain these substances. Under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, municipalities are entitled to control their own municipal disposal sites. Unwanted waste may be deposited into municipal landfill sites only with the consent of the local government. The local fire department may also be called upon if a fire or other public safety issue is identified.

Co-management Boards and Agencies

Co-management boards and agencies established under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement have broad authority for land use planning, impact assessment and the administration of land and water. Activities involving the management and disposal of ozone depleting substances may be controlled through the setting of terms and conditions in plans, permits and licenses issued by the Nunavut Water Board and other co-management boards and agencies.

Characteristics and Impacts of Ozone Depleting Substances

2.1 Characteristics

Ozone depleting substances generally contain a combination of chlorine, fluorine, bromine, carbon and hydrogen and are often referred to by the general term 'halocarbons'. Although each has its own unique chemical characteristics, ozone depleting substances are described as having low toxicity, low boiling points and low flammability. These characteristics have resulted in their wide use as refrigerants, fire extinguishing agents, blowing agents in manufacturing foam, propellants in aerosols and medical applications, and degreasing solvents.

Many halocarbons are highly effective in breaking down ozone. Unlike many other substances that are released into the atmosphere, ozone depleting substances are not 'washed' back to Earth by precipitation or destroyed by other chemicals but can remain in the atmosphere for several decades or more. This enables the substances to drift upward into the stratosphere where ultraviolet radiation from the sun releases the chlorine or bromine atoms which, in turn, destroy stratospheric ozone. Many ozone depleting substances are also powerful greenhouse gases with a much higher potential to enhance the greenhouse effect than carbon dioxide and methane.

Table 1 describes the characteristics of many common ozone depleting substances.

Ozone depleting substances are broadly grouped into the following categories, depending upon their molecular structures.

<i>Chlorofluorocarbons</i>	Chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, contain chlorine, fluorine and carbon atoms. First developed in the 1920s, they began to replace ammonia as a refrigerant gas in the 1930s and as an aerosol propellant in the 1940s. By the 1980s they were widely used as coolants in refrigerators and air conditioners, solvents in degreasers and cleaners, and as blowing agents in the production of foam.
<i>Halons</i>	Halons contain bromine, chlorine, fluorine and carbon atoms. The characteristics of halons make them very effective for extinguishing fires and are suitable for all types of fire extinguishing equipment ranging from industrial total flooding equipment to hand-held fire extinguishers popular for home or office use.
<i>Hydrochlorofluorocarbons</i>	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons, or HCFCs, contain chlorine, fluorine, hydrogen and carbon atoms. HCFCs have been developed for use as transitional or temporary replacements for CFCs because the hydrogen atom makes them less stable and therefore less damaging to the ozone layer. HCFCs are used mainly for foam blowing, refrigeration and air conditioning, solvent cleaning and, to a lesser extent, aerosols and fire protection.

Table 1.		Classification under Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations	ODP ^a	GWP ^b	Life Time ^c
Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's)					
CFC-11	Trichlorofluoromethane	Not restricted under TDG	1.0	4600	45
CFC -12	Dichlorofluoromethane	UN 1029 Class 2.2 Non-flammable Gas	1.0	10600	100
CFC-113	Trichlorofluoroethane	Not restricted under TDG	0.8	6000	85
CFC-114	Dichlorotetrafluoroethane	Not restricted under TDG	1.0	9800	300
CFC-115	Chloropentafluoroethane	UN 1020 Class 2.2 Non-flammable Gas	0.6	7200	1700
All other chlorofluorocarbons		Consult TDGA for classification			
Halons (Bromofluorocarbons)					
Halon 1011	Bromochloromethane	Un 1887 Class 6.1 Toxic Substance	0.12	-	-
Halon 1211	Bromochlorodifluoromethane	Not restricted under TDG	3.0	1300	11
Halon 1301	Bromotrifluoromethane	Un 1009 Class 2.2 Non-flammable Gas	10.0	6900	65
Halon 2402	Dibromotetrafluoroethane	Not restricted under TDG	6.0	-	-
All other halons		Consult TDGA for classification			
Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC's)					
HCFC-22	Chlorodifluoromethane	Un 1018 Class 2.2 Non-flammable Gas	0.055	1700	11
HCFC-123	Dichlorotrifluoroethane	Not restricted under TDG	0.02	-	1
HCFC-124	Chlorotetrafluoroethane	UN 3297 Class 2.2 Non-flammable Gas	0.022	620	6
HCFC-141b	Dichlorofluoroethane	Not restricted under TDG	0.11	700	9
HCFC-142b	Chlorodifluoroethane	Not restricted under TDG	0.065	2400	18
HCFC-225ca	Dichloropentafluoropropane	Not restricted under TDG	0.025	-	2
HCFC-225cb	Dichloropentafluoropropane	Not restricted under TDG	0.033	-	6
All other hydrochlorofluorocarbons		Consult TDGA for classification			

- a. 'Ozone Depleting Potential' is a measure of the capability of a chemical to destroy ozone. It is measured against CFC-11 which has an ozone depleting potential of one (1.0). As an example, one molecule of Halon 1301 has the potential to destroy ten times more ozone than one molecule of CFC-11.
- b. 'Global Warming Potential' is a measure of the warming effect that the emission of a gas has on the atmosphere. It is measured as a factor relative to carbon dioxide (CO₂) which has a global warming potential of one (1.0). As an example, one molecule of CFC-11 has the potential to warm the atmosphere 4600 times more than one molecule of carbon dioxide.
- c. 'Life time' is the number of years it takes for the substance to break down in the lower atmosphere.

2.2 Impacts

Ozone is very effective in absorbing ultraviolet radiation in the stratosphere. Its depletion, or thinning, allows more of this high-energy radiation to reach the Earth's surface. Releases of halocarbons, particularly chlorofluorocarbons and halons, enable photochemical reactions¹ to take place in the stratosphere that destroy the ultraviolet radiation-shielding layer of ozone.

Increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation by humans can lead to an increase in sunburn, skin cancer, eye cataracts, weakening of the immune system and aging of the skin (i.e. the skin becomes drier and

¹ The most important reaction is the photo-induced breaking of the carbon-chlorine or carbon-bromine bond. Once released, the radical chlorine and bromine atoms catalyze the conversion of ozone (O₃) into oxygen (O₂).

looses elasticity). Ecosystem impacts can also occur. This begins at the bottom of the food chain where plankton populations in the ocean have been reduced by increased ultraviolet radiation. Damage and impacts to vegetation, food crops, wildlife and domestic animals can also occur.

The atmospheric impact of ozone depleting substances is not limited solely to the reduction of ozone. Many of these substances are also powerful greenhouse gases with much higher 'global warming potentials' than carbon dioxide and methane.

The Management of Ozone Depleting Substances

Minimizing or avoiding the creation of pollutants and wastes can be more effective in protecting the environment than treating or cleaning them up after they have been created.²

In the past, the refrigeration, air conditioning and fire protection sectors have incorporated ozone depleting substances as critical components in their equipment and processes. Although a large portion of Canada's ozone depleting substances consumption has been eliminated in recent years, a significant quantity remains in use or storage. Many of the same ozone depleting substances used by the commercial, industrial and institutional sectors were also used in domestic applications (i.e. household refrigerators, freezers, vehicle air conditioners). An inventory completed for the Government of the Northwest Territories in 1992 confirmed that approximately three-quarters of the ozone depleting substances in use in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut at that time were accounted for by the commercial, industrial and institutional sectors. As a result, this section focuses on the use of ozone depleting substances by the commercial, industrial and institutional refrigeration, air conditioning and fire extinguishing sectors in Nunavut. References are made to domestic sector use where appropriate.

3.1 Phase-out Objectives and Approaches

The overall strategy in Canada has been to eliminate the manufacture, import and export of ozone depleting substances and to phase-out their sale and use as suitable replacements become available. Several substances have been identified as being suitable replacements for chlorofluorocarbons in refrigeration and air conditioning equipment including hydrochlorofluorocarbons and hydrofluorocarbons. Unfortunately, these replacements are not totally benign (i.e. some are very powerful greenhouse gases) and an active approach to controlling their sale and use continues to be necessary.

Under the federal *Ozone-depleting Substances Regulations*, no person may use, sell or offer for sale halons in Canada. The Nunavut Office of the Fire Marshal should be consulted on suitable replacements for halon systems when the servicing, recharging or replacement of existing equipment is being considered³.

Table 2 describes the phase-out objectives and approaches that apply to these ozone depleting substances in refrigeration, air conditioning and fire extinguishing equipment in Nunavut along with their primary replacement, hydrochlorofluorocarbons. The phase-out objectives and approaches described in the table are consistent with those outlined in *Canada's Strategy to Accelerate the Phase-Out of CFC and Halon Uses and to Dispose of Surplus Stocks 2001* and the federal *Ozone-depleting Substances Regulations*.

² Source – Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment.

³ The United States Environmental Protection Agency periodically updates a list of acceptable alternatives to halons and other ozone depleting substances. The listing can be downloaded at <http://www.epa.gov/ozone/snap/lists/index.html#halons>.

Table 2. Phase-out Objectives

Objective	Phase-Out Date
Refilling or replacement of chlorofluorocarbon-containing small (< 5 horsepower), medium, (5-30 horsepower) and large (>30 horsepower) commercial, industrial or institutional refrigeration and air conditioning equipment with a suitable alternative.	September 2011 or next service
Refilling or replacement of chlorofluorocarbon-containing mobile air conditioning equipment with a suitable alternative.	September 2011 or next service
Refilling or replacement of chlorofluorocarbon-containing mobile commercial and industrial refrigeration and chiller equipment with a suitable alternative.	September 2011 or next service
Refilling or replacement of halon-containing handheld or wheeled fire extinguishing equipment with a suitable alternative, except for critical uses ^a .	September 2011 or next service
Refilling or replacement of halon-containing fixed fire extinguishing equipment with a suitable alternative, except for critical uses ^a .	September 2011 or next service
Use and sale of hydrochlorofluorocarbons, except dichlorotrifluoroethane (HCFC-123).	January 2020
Use and sale of dichlorotrifluoroethane (HCFC-123).	January 2030

a. 'Critical use' for halons only include fire extinguishing equipment in military equipment.

3.2 Releases to the Environment

Ozone depleting substances must not be released to the environment. Equipment owners, managers and service technicians should be made aware of the environmental and human health impacts of ozone depleting substance emissions and the use of alternatives. To prevent releases from occurring, compressors, condensers, evaporators, piping and all associated equipment fitted to them need to be thoroughly inspected according to manufacturers' specifications, or at least twice each year if no specifications exist. These inspections should be incorporated into the facilities' regular maintenance plan.

Leaking equipment must not be 'recharged' with an ozone depleting substance until all necessary repairs have been completed by a certified service technician.

Spills or releases of ozone depleting substances must be immediately reported to the Nunavut/NWT 24-Hour Spill Report Line by phoning (867) 920-8130 in accordance with Schedule B of the *Spill Contingency Planning and Reporting Regulations*. Table 3 describes the minimum reportable quantities for ozone depleting substances as described in Schedule B.

Table 3. Minimum Reportable Quantities Following a Release

Ozone Depleting Substance	Minimum Reportable Quantity
CFC-12, CFC-15, HCFC-22, HCFC-124, Halon 1301 ^a	Any release from a container with a capacity greater than one hundred (100) litres
Halon 1011 ^b	5 litres or 5 kilograms
All other ozone depleting substances	100 litres or 100 kilograms

a. Transportation of Dangerous Goods Class 2.2 Non-flammable Gas

b. Transportation of Dangerous Goods Class 6.1 Toxic Substance

3.3 Recovery, Reclamation and Disposal

Table 2 describes the phase-out objectives of ozone depleting substances currently in use in Nunavut. Owners of fire extinguishing equipment and commercial, industrial or institutional mobile and stationary refrigeration and air conditioning equipment should either replace existing chlorofluorocarbons and halons with acceptable alternatives by September 2011 or during the next scheduled equipment service, or provide the Department of Environment with a suitable phase-out plan for the substance.

3.3.1 Stationary Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems

All compressor rooms housing stationary refrigeration and air conditioning systems should have refrigerant detectors and alarms installed in accordance with the Canadian Standards Association publication *B-52 – Mechanical Refrigeration Code* to detect refrigerant leaks and emissions. A refrigerant level greater than 10 parts per million in the compressor room is an indication that one or more of the systems is leaking. While refrigerant alarms are important, they are not substitutes for the physical leak testing of the system itself, which should take place a minimum of one time each year. Leak testing should also immediately be undertaken upon finding that a refrigeration or air conditioning system appears to be short of refrigerant. Any leak must be repaired prior to the system being recharged with refrigerant or put back into service. Chlorofluorocarbons must not be used to ‘top up’ a system. Recommendations on acceptable alternative refrigerants should be sought from the equipment’s manufacturer.

Refrigerant must be recovered during the servicing of equipment to avoid its venting or release to the atmosphere. All recovery equipment should meet the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) *Standard 740 – Refrigerant Recovery/Recycling Equipment* or the Underwriters’ of Canada (ULC) *Standard C1058.5-2004 - Halon and Halocarbon Clean Agent Recovery and Reconditioning Equipment*.

Only refillable containers may be used to store recovered refrigerants. These containers are less likely to leak and their use eliminates emissions caused by the disposal of throwaway or recyclable containers. All containers must meet the specifications listed in the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act* and be labeled in accordance with the *Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS)*.

The venting or release of refrigerants to the atmosphere for the purposes of disposal is unacceptable. Chlorofluorocarbons that are recovered from equipment must be returned to the original supplier, an independent reclaimer or licensed disposal facility for destruction. Contact Refrigerant Management Canada⁴ (RMC) by telephone at 1-866-622-0209 or by email at rmc@hrai.ca for information on the nearest reclaimer or licensed disposal facility. Only hydrochlorofluorocarbons and hydrofluorocarbons may be reclaimed to their original properties and used to 'top up' or recharge refrigeration and air conditioning equipment.

Unwanted refrigeration and air conditioning equipment must be completely emptied of refrigerant by a certified service technician prior to its disposal. A weatherproof notice should be permanently attached to the equipment stating the date of servicing, name of the certified technician and servicing company, and a statement confirming the equipment no longer contains refrigerant. Household refrigeration and air conditioning equipment is exempt from this requirement as long as it is disposed of in a separate area of the landfill specifically set aside for the disposal of 'white goods'. Local municipal governments are encouraged to use certified service technicians to recover the refrigerant from stored 'white goods' when quantities warrant.

Additional design and service practices are described in Environment Canada's *Environmental Code of Practice for Elimination of Fluorocarbon Emissions from Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems*.

3.3.2 Mobile Air Conditioning Systems and Chillers

The basic principles outlined in section 3.3.1 also apply to mobile air conditioners and chillers containing chlorofluorocarbons – recovery of the refrigerant during the installation, operation and servicing of equipment; avoiding the venting of refrigerants to the atmosphere; use of refillable containers to store recovered refrigerants; and servicing by certified service technicians.

Newer-model vehicle air conditioners and chillers already contain alternative non-chlorofluorocarbon refrigerants while older vehicles are likely to still contain CFC-12. The servicing of a motor vehicle air conditioner should be undertaken by a certified service technician in accordance with the Society of Automotive Engineers publication *SAE J1661 – Procedures for Retrofitting CFC-12 (R-12) Mobile Air-Conditioning Systems to HFC-134a (R-134a)* and *SAE J1989 - Recommended Service Procedure for the Containment of CFC-12 (R-12)*. Owners and service technicians should refer to the manufacturers' specifications when choosing a replacement refrigerant.

All motor vehicle air conditioning systems and chiller refrigerant must be recovered before the vehicle is wrecked or scrapped. A certified service technician who is trained in the safe handling of refrigerants should remove the refrigerant, transfer it to a suitable refillable and labeled container, and arrange to have it transported to the original supplier, an independent reclaimer or licensed disposal facility for destruction. A personal motor vehicle delivered to a landfill by its owner is exempt from this requirement as long as the vehicle is disposed of in a separate area of the landfill specifically set aside for this purpose. Local municipal governments are encouraged to use certified service technicians to recover refrigerants from discarded vehicles when quantities warrant.

⁴ RMC is a not-for-profit corporation established by the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) to ensure the responsible disposal of surplus ozone depleting substances from refrigeration and air conditioning equipment. The program is an EcoLogo™ certified program.

Additional design and service practices for mobile air conditioners and chillers are described in Environment Canada's *Environmental Code of Practice for Elimination of Fluorocarbon Emissions from Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems*.

3.3.3 Fire Extinguishing Equipment

The basic principles outlined in section 3.3.1 also apply to halon fire extinguishing equipment - recovery of the extinguishant during servicing and decommissioning; avoiding release of halons during training and equipment testing; use of refillable containers to store recovered halons; and servicing by certified service technicians.

Owners of fire extinguishing equipment that contain halons should develop a management plan in accordance with the phase-out objectives described in Table 2. Fire extinguishing equipment may not be recharged with halons in Canada except for use in military applications. Owners should contact the Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada (ULC) for information on the nearest reclaimer or licensed disposal facility. The Office of the Fire Marshal should also be consulted on suitable replacement fire extinguishing equipment when decommissioning halon systems.

Existing halon equipment must be properly maintained for as long it remains in service in order to avoid releases to the environment and to ensure the facility or asset is not without adequate fire protection. The training of personnel and testing of equipment must not result in any release of halons. Alternative procedures, such as video demonstrations and the use of halon stimulants, should be used to achieve the same testing and training objectives.

The servicing and decommissioning of halon fire extinguishing equipment must only be undertaken by a certified service technician. All equipment and servicing procedures must comply with Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada *Standard ULC/ORD-C1058.5-2004: Halon and Halocarbon Clean Agent Recovery and Reconditioning Equipment* and the *Standard ULC/ORD-C1058.18-2004: The Servicing of Halon and Clean Agent Extinguishing Systems*.

The venting or release of halons to the atmosphere for the purposes of disposal is unacceptable and must be avoided. Should a release occur, it must immediately be reported to the Nunavut/NWT 24-Hour Spill Report Line at (867) 920-8130.

Additional design and service practices for fire extinguishing equipment containing halons are described in Environment Canada's *Environmental Code of Practice on Halons*.

3.4 Transportation

Under the federal *Ozone-depleting Substances Regulations*, any person wishing to import or export a controlled ozone depleting substance must first obtain a permit from Environment Canada. In addition, several ozone depleting substances are classified as either Class 2.2 or 6.1 dangerous goods under the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act* and must be transported in accordance to this Section.

Under the federal *Interprovincial Movement of Hazardous Waste Regulations* and *Export and Import of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations*, no person may transport waste dangerous goods in Canada for the purpose of disposal or recycling in a quantity greater than five kilograms or five litres unless it is accompanied by a completed manifest. Manifest forms are available

from Nunavut's Department of Environment and completion instructions are included on the reverse side of each manifest. Further information on manifesting can be obtained by referring to the *Environmental Guideline for the General Management of Hazardous Waste* or Environment Canada's *User's Guide for the Hazardous Waste Manifest*.

The classification, packaging, labeling and placarding of several ozone depleting substances must conform to the federal and territorial *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act* and *Regulations* while the substances are being transported. Schedule I of the *Regulations* classify these substances as follows:

Shipping Name:	WASTE Bromotrifluoromethane; or Refrigerant Gas R-13b1 Classification: 2.2 Product Identification Number: UN1009
Shipping Name:	WASTE Chlorodifluoromethane; or Refrigerant Gas R-22 Classification: 2.2 Product Identification Number: UN1018
Shipping Name:	WASTE Chloropentafluoroethane; or Refrigerant Gas R-115 Classification: 2.2 Product Identification Number: UN1020
Shipping Name:	WASTE Dichlorofluoromethane; or Refrigerant Gas R-21 Classification: 2.2 Product Identification Number: UN1029
Shipping Name:	WASTE Bromochloromethane Classification: 6.1 Product Identification Number: UN1887 Packing Group: III
Shipping Name:	WASTE Ethylene Oxide and Chlorotetrafluoroethane Mixture Classification: 2.2 Product Identification Number: UN3297

The transport of ozone depleting substances by air must conform to the *International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations* and *International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Technical Instructions*, while transport by marine must conform to the *International Marine Dangerous Goods Code*. Further information on transporting these substances can be obtained by contacting Transport Canada or referring to the appropriate Transport Authority.

Hazardous waste generators, carriers and receivers operating in Nunavut must be registered with the Nunavut Department of Environment. A unique registration number is assigned to each registrant through the registration process, which enables completion of the manifest document. Copies of registration forms are available at <http://env.gov.nu.ca/programareas/environmentprotection/forms-applications> or by contacting Nunavut's Department of Environment. Refer to the *Environmental Guideline for the General Management of Hazardous Waste* for additional information on the registration process.

A listing of hazardous waste carriers, receivers and management facilities registered to operate in Nunavut is available by contacting Nunavut's Department of Environment.

3.5 Certification and Awareness Training

Only certified service technicians may service refrigeration, air conditioning and fire extinguishing equipment containing an ozone depleting substance. To achieve certification, a technician must successfully complete an environmental awareness training course approved by Environment Canada. A card indicating completion of training should be carried by the certified service technician at all times. Completion of training only enables the person to handle ozone depleting substances as provided in the Guideline and is not evidence of qualifications to otherwise service refrigeration, air conditioning or fire extinguishing equipment.

Only certified service technicians may purchase or possess an ozone depleting substance for the purpose of servicing equipment that already contains an ozone depleting substance. Companies employing certified service technicians must maintain records indicating the name, training date and qualifications of employees who are certified to service ozone depleting substance-containing equipment.

3.6 Labeling and Record Keeping

Each piece of refrigeration, air conditioning and fire extinguishing equipment containing an ozone depleting substance must be permanently labeled with the quantity and type of ozone depleting substance contained within that equipment. The label must be amended if the equipment has been 'evacuated' of ozone depleting substances or if the equipment is recharged with a different refrigerant or extinguishant.

An up-to-date service record should be maintained in close proximity to equipment containing ozone depleting substances, or with the owner of the facility. The record should include servicing dates, name of servicing company and certified technician, details on leak testing and detection, quantities of substances recovered or re-charged, and any other information pertinent to the servicing, operation and maintenance of the equipment. The record must be retained for the operating life of the equipment and be made available for inspection upon the request of an Inspector appointed under the *Environmental Protection Act*.

3.7 Sales Records

Any person who sells an ozone depleting substance, except where the substance is a component of another product, should maintain a sales record indicating the type of ozone depleting substance sold, the date of sale, the name of the person who purchased the substance and the name of that person's business. Only persons who are certified service technicians should purchase ozone depleting substances, except where the substance is a component of another product.

Conclusion

The *National Action Plan for the Environmental Control of Ozone Depleting Substances and their Halocarbon Alternatives* commits federal, provincial and territorial governments to implement an ozone layer protection program focused on all ozone depleting substances. The *Environmental Guideline for Ozone Depleting Substances* represents the Government of Nunavut's updated response to the National Action Plan. The Guideline focuses on the industrial, commercial and institutional refrigeration, air conditioning and fire protection sectors, although it is recognized that ozone depleting substances can still be found in older-model household refrigerators and freezers and older-model vehicle air conditioners and chillers. The Guideline provides information on the most common ozone depleting substances and their replacement, the impacts of ozone depletion and best practices respecting the phase-out, recovery, reuse and disposal of these substances.

Familiarity with the Guideline does not replace the need for the owner or person in charge, management or control of ozone depleting substances to comply with all applicable federal and territorial legislation and municipal by-laws. The management of these substances may also be controlled through permits and licenses issued by Nunavut's co-management boards, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and other regulatory agencies. These permits and licenses must be complied with at all times.

For additional information on the management of ozone depleting substances, or to obtain a complete listing of guidelines, go to the Department of Environment web site or contact the Department at:

Environmental Protection Division
Department of Environment
Government of Nunavut
Inuksugait Plaza, P.O. Box 1000, Station 1360
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

Telephone: (867) 975-7729

Fax: (867) 975-7739

Email: EnvironmentalProtection@gov.nu.ca

Website: <http://env.gov.nu.ca/programareas/environmentprotection>

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http://standards.sae.org/j1989_199811

Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada. ULC/ORD-C1058.18-2004: The Servicing of Halon and Clean Agent Extinguishing Systems. Available for purchase online.

Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada. ULC/ORD-C1058.5-2004: Halon and Halocarbon Clean Agent Recovery and Reconditioning Equipment. Available for purchase online.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

The following are excerpts from the *Environmental Protection Act*

1. "Contaminant" means any noise, heat, vibration or substance and includes such other substance as the Minister may prescribe that, where discharged into the environment,
 - (a) endangers the health, safety or welfare of persons,
 - (b) interferes or is likely to interfere with normal enjoyment of life or property,
 - (c) endangers the health of animal life, or
 - (d) causes or is likely to cause damage to plant life or to property;

"Discharge" includes, but not so as to limit the meaning, any pumping, pouring, throwing, dumping, emitting, burning, spraying, spreading, leaking, spilling, or escaping;

"Environment" means the components of the Earth and includes

- (a) air, land and water,
- (b) all layers of the atmosphere,
- (c) all organic and inorganic matter and living organisms, and
- (d) the interacting natural systems that include components referred to in paragraphs (a) to (c).

"Inspector" means a person appointed under subsection 3(2) and includes the Chief Environmental Protection Officer.

- 2.2 The Minister may
 - (a) establish, operate and maintain stations to monitor the quality of the environment in the Territories;
 - (b) conduct research studies, conferences and training programs relating to contaminants and to the preservation, protection or enhancement of the environment;
 - (c) develop, co-ordinate and administer policies, standards, guidelines and codes of practice relating to the preservation, protection or enhancement of the environment;
 - (d) collect, publish and distribute information relating to contaminants and to the preservation, protection or enhancement of the environment:
3.
 - (1) The Minister shall appoint a Chief Environmental Protection Officer who shall administer and enforce this Act and the regulations.
 - (2) The Chief Environmental Protection Officer may appoint inspectors and shall specify in the appointment the powers that may be exercised and the duties that may be performed by the inspector under this Act and regulations.
5.
 - (1) Subject to subsection (3), no person shall discharge or permit the discharge of a contaminant into the environment.
 - (3) Subsection (1) does not apply where the person who discharged the contaminant or permitted the discharge of the contaminant establishes that
 - (a) the discharge is authorized by this Act or the regulations or by an order issued under this Act or the regulations;
 - (b) the contaminant has been used solely for domestic purposes and was discharged from within a dwelling house;
 - (c) the contaminant was discharged from the exhaust system of a vehicle;

- (d) the discharge of the contaminant resulted from the burning of leaves, foliage, wood, crops or stubble for domestic or agricultural purposes;
- (e) the discharge of the contaminant resulted from burning for land clearing or land grading;
- (f) the discharge of the contaminant resulted from a fire set by a public official for habitat management of silviculture purposes;
- (g) the contaminant was discharged for the purposes of combating a forest fire;
- (h) the contaminant is a soil particle or grit discharged in the course of agriculture or horticulture; or
- (i) the contaminant is a pesticide classified and labelled as "domestic" under the *Pest Control Products Regulations* (Canada).

(4) The exceptions set out in subsection (3) do not apply where a person discharges a contaminant that the inspector has reasonable grounds to believe is not usually associated with a discharge from the excepted activity.

- 5.1. Where a discharge of a contaminant into the environment in contravention of this Act or the regulations or the provisions of a permit or license issued under this Act or the regulations occurs or a reasonable likelihood of such a discharge exists, every person causing or contributing to the discharge or increasing the likelihood of such a discharge, and the owner or the person in charge, management or control of the contaminant before its discharge or likely discharge, shall immediately:
- (a) subject to any regulations, report the discharge or likely discharge to the person or office designated by the regulations;
 - (b) take all reasonable measures consistent with public safety to stop the discharge, repair any damage caused by the discharge and prevent or eliminate any danger to life, health, property or the environment that results or may be reasonably expected to result from the discharge or likely discharge; and
 - (c) make a reasonable effort to notify every member of the public who may be adversely affected by the discharge or likely discharge.
6. (1) Where an inspector believes on reasonable grounds that a discharge of a contaminant in contravention of this Act or the regulations or a provision of a permit or license issued under this Act or the regulations has occurred or is occurring, the inspector may issue an order requiring any person causing or contributing to the discharge or the owner or the person in charge, management or control of the contaminant to stop the discharge by the date named in the order.
7. (1) Notwithstanding section 6, where a person discharges or permits the discharge of a contaminant into the environment, an inspector may order that person to repair or remedy any injury or damage to the environment that results from the discharge.
- (2) Where a person fails or neglects to repair or remedy any injury or damage to the environment in accordance with an order made under subsection (1) or where immediate remedial measures are required to protect the environment, the Chief Environmental Protection Officer may cause to be carried out the measures that he or she considers necessary to repair or remedy an injury or damage to the environment that results from any discharge.

APPENDIX 2 – GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY CONTACTS

Government of Nunavut

Environmental Protection Division
Department of Environment
Inuksugait Plaza
P.O. Box 1000, Station 1360
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Telephone: (867) 975-7729 Fax: (867) 975-7739

Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission
P.O. Box 669
Baron Building/1091
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Telephone: 1-877-404-4407 (toll free)
Fax: 1-866-979-8501

Office of Chief Medical Health Officer of Health
Department of Health and Social Services
P.O. Box 1000, Station 1000
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Telephone: (867) 975-5774 Fax: (867) 975-5755

Government of Canada

Indian and Northern Affairs – Nunavut Region
P.O. Box 2200
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Telephone: (867) 975-4500 Fax: (867) 975-4560

Environment Canada (NWT and Nunavut)
5019 52nd Street
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1T5
Telephone: (867) 669-4730 Fax: (867) 873-8185

Industry

The Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning
Institute of Canada (HRAI)
2800 Skymark Avenue, Building 1, Suite 201
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 5A6
Telephone: 1-800-267-2231 (toll free)
<http://www.hrai.ca>

Motor Vehicles Division
Department of Economic Development and
Transportation
P.O. Box 10
Gjoa Haven, Nunavut X0B 1J0
Telephone: (867) 360-4615 Fax: (867) 360-4619

Department of Community and Government
Services (all Divisions)
P.O. Box 1000, Station 700
4th Floor, W.G. Brown Building
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Telephone: (867) 975-5400 Fax: (867) 975-5305

Department of Transport – Road, Rail, Marine, Air
P.O. Box 8550
344 Edmonton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1P6
Telephone: 1-888-463-0521 (toll free)
Fax: (204) 983-8992 Road, Rail and Marine
Fax: (204) 983-1734 Air

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